

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY EA/J:NPLATT:BCL
APPROVED BY A - R HADHL OOKE
NSC - MR. ARMACOST
S/S - PTARNOFF

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O 222313Z FEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 046226

EXDIS FOR AMBASSADOR FROM HOLBROOKE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, US

SUBJECT: FUKUDA VISIT

1. YOU ARE REQUESTED TO INVITE PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT CARTER JUNE 26 IN SAN FRANCISCO. YOU SHOULD DESCRIBE THE BENEFITS OF A WEST COAST LOCATION, INCLUDING:

-- THE SYMBOLISM OF THE PRESIDENT TRAVELING TO MEET THE JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER INSTEAD OF ONCE AGAIN RECEIVING HIM IN WASHINGTON,

-- THE OPPORTUNITY THAT A MEETING OUTSIDE WASHINGTON PROVIDES TO SET FUKUDA APART FROM OTHER VISITING WORLD LEADERS AND UNDERLINE OUR SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH JAPAN.

-- THE VASTLY INCREASED PUBLIC ATTENTION WHICH INVARIABLY
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ACCOMPANYS PRESIDENTIAL ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE WASHINGTON,

-- THE OPPORTUNITY THAT A WEST COAST MEETING WOULD PROVIDE FOR THE PRESIDENT TO REEMPHASIZE THE US POSITION AS A PACIFIC POWER AND US-JAPAN COOPERATION IN MAINTAINING STABILITY IN THE REGION.

2. IF PRIME MINISTER PREFERS EARLY MAY DATE DESPITE ADVANTAGES OUTLINED ABOVE, YOU MAY TELL HIM THAT PRESIDENT WOULD BE HAPPY TO RECEIVE FUKUDA FIRST WEEK OF MAY IN WASHINGTON.

3. FYI. I HAVE BRIEFED TOGO ON THE CONTENTS OF THIS MESSAGE, EMPHASIZING THAT YOU ARE THE PRIMARY CHANNEL FOR THIS COMMUNICATION.

4. PRESS SHOULD NOT BE INFORMED OF DECISION EITHER WAY UNTIL WE WORK OUT SPECIFICS OF JOINT ANNOUNCEMENT. VANCE

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NNN

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